

Gung Hay Fat Choy from BART

Celebrate the Year of the Dog by taking BART to the Southwest Airlines Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco, Saturday, February 11 at 5:30 p.m. Exit at the Montgomery or Powell Street stations for all the fun and excitement of this Bay Area tradition!

Named one of the world's top ten parades, the Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco is one of the few remaining night illuminated parades in the country. Started in the 1860's to educate the community about Chinese culture, the Parade and Festival have grown to be the largest celebration of Asian culture outside of Asia.



Chronicle/Liz Mangelsdorf

Nowhere in the world will you see a lunar new year parade with more gorgeous floats, elaborate costumes, ferocious lions, exploding firecrackers and the newly crowned Miss Chinatown U.S.A. and her court. A crowd favorite is the spectacular Golden Dragon. It takes a team of over 100 men and women from the martial arts group White Crane to carry this dragon through the streets of San Francisco.

For more information or to buy bleacher tickets, visit chineseparade.com or call 415/391-9680. To plan your BART trip, visit bart.gov.

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

BART bomb dogs play key role in weapons bust

The Walnut Creek Police Department is crediting the discovery of illegal firearms and explosives to BART's bomb sniffing dog team.

Walnut Creek Police asked BART Police Officer Jason Ledford and his explosive detecting dog, Andy, to determine whether a garage contained explosives. Andy used his highly trained nose to independently confirm that the garage did. A second BART team, made up of



Officer Sandoval and Tibo, Officer Ledford and Andy

continued on back

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Enjoy wireless communication underground...

BART now offers wireless communication to riders on trains underground from Embarcadero Station to Civic Center/U.N. Plaza Station in San Francisco and we are already working to extend the same service to other underground areas in the system.



This means within the service area you now have the ability and freedom to check emails on your wireless device and/or use your cell phone.

With freedom comes responsibility. I would ask you to be responsible and courteous to your fellow passengers when using your cell phone on BART. Please remember others may not wish to hear your conversation. Setting your phone to vibrate will curb the number of cell phones that will suddenly begin ringing when a train enters the wireless service area.

T. E. Margro

Thomas E. Margro, General Manager

BART and SamTrans and elephant seals, oh my!

Every winter the Northern Elephant Seals return to their breeding grounds at the Año Nuevo State Reserve. Now BART and SamTrans make it quick and easy for you to see the seals.

Take BART to Millbrae Station and join SamTrans, with its annual elephant seal viewing package. For only \$15 (BART fare not included),

visitors receive round-trip transportation from Millbrae to Año Nuevo and a reservation for a three-mile guided walk.

Hundreds of people make the trip to Año Nuevo every year to see the largest mainland breeding colony of Northern Elephant Seals, which is available to the public only by scheduled guided walks.

SamTrans weekend trips will be available through March 5, including Presidents Day. Advance reservations are required.

More information about SamTrans' Año Nuevo package, as well as reservation forms, are available in the "Special Service" section of samtrans.com. To plan your BART trip to Millbrae, visit bart.gov.



"Bomb dogs" continued

Officer John Sandoval and his dog Tibo, also confirmed the find.

Soon after, a judge issued a search warrant based largely on the evidence found by Andy and Tibo, resulting in the arrest of a man for possession of four destructive devices and several illegal firearms including three fully automatic assault rifles.

"All of our dogs can do this work," says Officer Ledford, "We just happened to be the ones who got the call."

Officer Ledford has been with BART Police for 11 years, the last four with Andy, a German Shepherd from Slovakia. Officer Sandoval has been on the force for over three years, working the last five months with Tibo, a German Shepherd from Germany.

BART's K-9 team was established in 1990. Initially, BART used the K-9 teams to protect passengers, locate hidden suspects and track down stolen evidence. In 2002 two of BART's K-9 teams received cross-training for explosives detection. BART currently has six canine teams, all cross-trained for protection and explosive detection. Three more K-9 teams are soon to be added.

"Explosive detection is a huge deterrent for terrorism. We want to make BART as unattractive a target as we can," says K-9 team Sergeant Lance Haight.

BART celebrates Black History Month



Look for this poster honoring Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks on BART trains this month.

GOOD TIMES

A Tribute to the Spoken Word: from okra to greens by Ntozake Shange

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter Street
San Francisco, www.lhtsf.org, 415/474-8800

BART: Powell, six-block walk

Through Feb. 19: This celebration of the work of poet/performance artist/playwright/novelist Shange captures the poetic cadences of the African-American experience.

Journeys in Black: African-American Artists Celebrate Blackness

San Francisco Main Library
African American Center, Third Floor
100 Larkin St. at Grove, www.sfppl.org

BART: Civic Center

Through March 30: Works of artists Malik Seneferu, Hopeton Stewart, Cedric Brown and others are displayed in celebration of Black History Month.

Michael Smuin's Bluegrass/Slyde

Dean Lesh Regional Center for the Arts
1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek,
www.smuinballet.org, 925/943-7469

BART: Walnut Creek

Feb. 10-11: Dancers whirl around spinning poles and joyously revel in the bluegrass rhythms of renowned bassist Edgar Meyer and premier banjo player Béla Fleck in Smuin's electric new piece. Friday, Feb. 10, is a "pay what you can" performance.

White Elephant Sale

The Bay Area's Biggest and Best Rummage Sale
A Benefit for the Oakland Museum of California
Sponsored by the Oakland Museum Women's Board
www.museumca.org, 510/536-6800

BART: Fruitvale, catch free shuttle to the sale.

Saturday, March 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, March 5, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.:

"Acres of Bargains for Peanuts!" Held in the WES warehouse at 333 Lancaster Street (at Glascock), on the Oakland Estuary. All proceeds from the sale go to support programs and exhibitions at the Oakland Museum of California. Admission is free. A free shuttle will run between the Fruitvale BART station and the warehouse.

Walter Robinson: Greenhouse

Oakland Museum of California offsite exhibition
The Sculpture Court, 1111 Broadway, Oakland
www.museumca.org

BART: 12th Street Oakland City Center

Through April 21: An office building's atrium lobby is transformed into an eerie, fantastical environment with Walter Robinson's uncanny constructs. Animal species – tar pets, sparkle pups and brillo giraffes – stem from Robinson's interests in African animal fetishes and in children's toys.



Boneyard Midori, 2003

Park at a BART station near you

BART provides a variety of parking options for customers who drive to BART stations.

Monthly Reserved Permit parking is available at most BART parking facilities. Permits for monthly reserved parking guarantee a space within a designated parking area, close to the station until 10 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Customers parking at Daly City, Colma, Fruitvale, Lake Merritt, MacArthur, Rockridge and West Oakland are required to pay a daily parking fee. The fee applies to all parking spaces in these lots, including those for disabled, carpool and midday parkers. The fee is required until 3 p.m. weekdays and can be paid with a blue BART ticket or cash.

BART is now offering riders Single Day Reserved Permit parking at the Fruitvale, Lake Merritt, West Oakland, MacArthur and Rockridge stations. This permit allows riders to purchase a reserved permit for single days and park in the Permit/Reserved area. Single day reservations are for arrival before 10 am.

BART also offers Airport/Long Term Permit parking at all East Bay stations with parking, except the West Oakland and Coliseum/Oakland Airport stations.

For more BART parking information or to make a reservation, visit bart.gov/parking.

